

February 10, 2015



The results are in and Perpich rocks MN Scholastic Arts & Writing Awards

The results of the 2015 Minnesota Scholastic Arts & Writing Awards judging are in and Perpich students have once more put Perpich Arts High School among the top award-winning schools in Minnesota with 74 awards. Perpich media and visual arts students have won 18 Gold Keys, 12 Silver Keys and 33 honorable mentions. On top of that, with 11 awards in the writing competition, Perpich ranks second overall and first among public high schools in Minnesota.

Halley Boesen, junior in visual arts, has been named an American Visions nominee, one of only five in the state. This makes her eligible for a scholarship from the member schools of the Association of Independent Colleges of Art & Design.

Media arts students winning Gold Keys are: Harrison Sutherland, junior; and Ashley Brewer and Rebecca Silberfarb, seniors. Students winning Gold Keys in visual arts are: Halley Boesen, junior; Jane Gadbois (2), Io Irvin (2), Deseray Jones, Allison Michaelynn, Grace Miller (4), Faith Rawson and Gretchen West (3), seniors.

Visual arts students winning Silver Keys are: Anais Mistral and Sherrill Zheng, juniors; and Haley Bennett, Lianna Erhart, Eva Janke-Furman, Elin Miller, Grace Miller and Gretchen West, seniors. Media arts students winning Silver Keys are: Ashley Brewer, Jae Shin Cross, Michael Hansen and Rebecca Silberfarb, all seniors.

Media arts students given honorable mentions are: Ashley Brewer, Shannon Clancy, Nathan Lindberg (2), Jolius Nyren, Rebecca Silberfarb (2) and Satya Varghese Mac.

Those receiving honorable mentions in visual arts are: Charlotte Birkeli, Olivia Dybing, Michelle Goodwin, Abigail Griffin, Simon Johnson and Sherrill Zheng (2), all juniors; Haley Bennett, Madison Chesnutt, Ameen Everett, Diana Ganado Ramos, Jordyn Hughes, Io Irving (2), Deseray Jones, Madalina Kelner (2), Faith Rawson, Scarlett Searle, Hannah Shoger, Rachel Staehling, Treya Timmreck, Renae Wallace-Wobschall (2) and Ashley Wolfe, seniors.

In poetry, Perpich took two Silver Keys, one for Erika Beal, senior in literary arts and one for Marie (Anna) Thoraldson, who was a junior in literary arts. Erika also received a Silver Key in the short story category. Jansen Pierce, junior in literary arts, won a Silver Key for flash fiction. Valentina Grondhuis, junior in literary arts, won a Silver Key for personal essay/memoir.

Winning honorable mentions are junior literary arts students Anne Boatman, short story; Andrei Haberer, poetry; Katia Kozachok, poetry; Kayla McBride, poetry; Cole Velders, personal essay/memoir; and Jane Gadbois, visual arts senior, for poetry. Congratulations! Each of you makes Perpich proud!



Music students win accolades

Riona Ryan, Thanasi Pantazides, Sam Hoch and Cynthia Heck, all seniors in the music program, have won recognition in two different Minnesota music competitions.

Riona Ryan has won the **Eric Stokes Song Contest**. She will receive a cash prize and a performance of her piece in March by the Zeitgeist New Music Ensemble. The contest was developed to encourage and celebrate amateur music-making and attracts 50 to 70 entries per year. Entrants have ranged in age from four to 89 and are judged in two categories, youth (up to age 17) and adult.



Cynthia Heck, Sam Hoch and Thanasi Pantazides are three of only five composer finalists in the **Minnesota Varsity Competition**, sponsored by Minnesota Public Radio. They will each receive a video focus on the MPR website. Their compositions will be read along with the two other finalists Feb. 14. Two winners will be featured in a live on-air concert from the Fitzgerald Theatre April 19. Winners also receive scholarships of \$4000 to certain schools. Minnesota Varsity showcases the top high school musical talent from MPR's broadcast area. Congratulations to our terrific music students!



Perpich students dominate the awards in honors exhibition at Concordia

Four of the top five awards at the 12th Annual High School Honors Exhibition at Concordia University have gone to Perpich visual and media students. Allison Michaellyn, senior in visual, won first place for her painting "The Wanderer." Eva Janke-Furman, a visual arts senior, won second place for her watercolor triptych. Jae Shin Cross, senior in media arts, won third place for her photography book, "Safety." And Astraëa Smart, senior in media, won fifth place for her digital diptych, "Ambiguous."

Receiving honorable mentions were Scarlett Searle, Catherine Trombley and Diana Ganado Ramos, seniors in visual; and Rosie Amato Bauer, senior in media. Congratulations!



Be Heard poetry slam semi-finalists include Perpich students

Adera Preston and Emma Riley, both seniors in theater, are semi-finalists in a youth poetry slam competition that leads to a national festival. At the end of two semi-final slams, there will be a final slam on March 28 at the Capri Theater in Minneapolis when six students will be chosen to represent Minnesota at the annual international Brave New Voices Youth Poetry Slam Festival. For a full schedule of preliminaries and semi-finals, see truartspeaks.com. Good luck in the semi-finals, Adera and Emma!



"Flip the Script" one-day conference for youth artists Feb. 22

TruArtsSpeaks, the organization behind the Be Heard youth poetry slam competition, is co-sponsoring with The Loft "Flip the Script, a one-day spoken word writing and performance intensive conference, noon-5 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 22, at The Loft, 1011 S. Washington Ave., Minneapolis. Registration is free.



Dance students stepping out all over town

After working with the dance troupe TU Dance (headed by Toni Pierce-Sands and Uri Sands, formerly of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater) in late January, the dance students traveled to St. Paul to perform at an event honoring National School Choice Week. Several legislators came to watch and Sue Perpich, daughter of the late Gov. Rudy Perpich, attended and was introduced to the students who spontaneously applauded her. Gabby Abram, dance senior, also spoke to the assembled group about the value she placed in being able to come to Perpich. The next day, they boarded the bus again to visit South High School in Minneapolis where they shared their work with the dance class there. Thanks for all of your outreach, dance students!

Professional outreach event in Elk River

Rana Nestrud, coordinator for Perpich's regional center in Elk River, announces that "**Work of Art: Business Skills for Artists**," a workshop on record keeping and financial management, will be offered at Elk River Arts Alliance, 609 Main St., Elk River, 4-6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 19. This begins a 10-session series presented by Springboard for the Arts and sponsored by the Central Minnesota Arts Board with which Perpich collaborates. The sessions are free but attendees must register for each by emailing info@elkriverart.com.



Internationally recognized animator visits Perpich media students

A day after performing at Walker Art Center, **Miwa Matreyek**, an internationally recognized animator, designer and multimedia artist based in Los Angeles, visited media students at Perpich to discuss her work and media careers. She creates animated short films as well as live works that integrate animation, performance and video installation. You can see her TED talk [here](#).



Field trips here and there

Advanced media students visited **vidtiger** in mid-January and experienced the company's **Futurekave project**, an interactive web planet that you can sculpt with your gestures. "Futurekave is a platform for social play in a universe of new worlds," according to its creators. "The intersection of virtual reality and the real world presents a tremendous opportunity for creativity, social connection and engagement." The company works on interactive video, environmental design, experience engineering and building projects that engage audiences in spaces. They are award-winning content creators. And the students got to try out virtual reality glasses! Instructor Rebecca Bullen reports that they left inspired.

The museum studies class traveled to the Goldstein Museum of Design at the University of Minnesota last week to see "Design Cycles: A Bike Show," and hear a presentation from the museum's director, Lin Nelson-Mayson, who also heads the U's museum studies program.



Welcome our French exchange student!

Adele Guglielmetti, a student from France, has arrived this week. She is staying with Alex Heide, dance junior and her family for three weeks. For the past three years Perpich has welcomed a French student in February. Adele is very excited to meet everyone, to practice her English and to experience an American school and family. She will be in the dance program with Alex for three weeks. Please welcome her warmly. Her visit offers an opportunity for students to make an international connection without traveling. She returns to France on Feb. 28. Welcome, Adele!



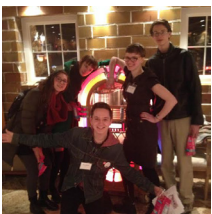
Visual arts instructor's works chosen for biannual exhibition

Two of Pat Benincasa's works have been selected for the [Four Points Contemporary 4th Biannual Exhibition](#). They are "Ore Yard Pennsylvania" and "Iron Sky." Four Points Contemporary was established to foster and encourage the development of visual art, engage in scholarly research and assist the careers of visual artists through unrestricted monetary rewards. Along with its bi-annual visual arts contest, Four Points Contemporary collects and exhibits work directly from qualified artists. Congratulations, Pat!



Dance alumni doing well

Herbert Johnson (dance '10) is co-director of the local dance company, Shapeshift, that performed the first weekend of February at Cowles Center for Dance and the Performing Arts to great reviews in the [Star Tribune](#). And Matthew Wagner, another Perpich dance grad, has been named an adjunct professor of dance at the University of Minnesota.



Design students are growing greener and greener

On Feb. 5, five design students, Amanda Erickson, Olivia Munson, Naomi Green, Josh Mickelson, Helena Smith and Eliot Skinner, participated in the Minnesota Cup's Entrepreneurs At the Table, Growing the Food Innovation Network in MN event at the Green Acres Event Center in Eden Prairie. Students mixed with Minnesota investors and entrepreneurs to talk about the research and development of their "micGrow: a green space" design, which incorporates micro-gardens and hydroponics into cafeteria tables and booths to educate students on the benefits of healthy eating and the greens food cycle. Here is the pitch they presented to the investors at the show: "Public school students have very limited accessibility to fresh vegetables. The "micGrow: a green space" will provide fresh herbs, leafy greens and sprouts to enhance students' meals. This green space will add to a cafeteria's aesthetic value, creating a welcoming and beautiful space for students to eat. There is also a therapeutic element to "micGrow: a green space" because human beings are naturally connected to plants and micGrow will promote the well-being of all students. Interacting with such a vibrantly alive food source will create a culture where students consider and analyze where their food comes from. "micGrow: a green space" is in the R&D stages by design students."



The Empty Bowls Project returns to Perpich

The Empty Bowls Project is an international grassroots effort to raise both money and awareness in the fight to end hunger. The ceramics department at Perpich and the Empty Bowls Project in the Robbinsdale school district collaborate to create bowls to be sold with proceeds go to food shelves in the area. This is a great resource to the surrounding community and a wonderful opportunity for Perpich to give back to those in need and show their creativity. All are welcome to come and make bowls Friday, Feb. 27, 1-3:30 p.m. in the ceramics room.



Students For Racial Equity take action

Students from Perpich's Students for Racial Equity group collected donations of food and clothes during late January and found the Perpich community to be exceedingly responsive to this initiative, giving more than 520 items: 62 food items, 275 pieces of clothing and 186 other items.

Isabel Pastoor and Athanasios Pantazides helped deliver the items to the Groveland Food Shelf, the St. Louis Park Emergency Program, ARC Value Village and North High School. Our school community is so grateful for the efforts of these students. Students for Racial Equity is a student group that meets every Monday during Resource Time in English instructor Tom Carlson's room, 303. Students also meet more informally over lunchtime each day. All students interested in issues of racial equity are welcomed to join in anytime.

Opportunity in Perpich cafeteria

Looking for work while your children are in school? Consider applying today to be an on-call food service substitute worker. Call 763-279-4196 for more information.

Calendar

Dates

Feb 11–12	Music Concert
Feb 16–17	No Classes
Feb 23	Artscience Exhibition
Feb 24	Literary Arts Reading
Feb 26	Media Arts Photo Exhibition
Mar 5	Literary Arts Reading
Mar 12	Media Arts Senior Cinema
Mar 25–26	Music Concert

Perpich Arts High School	6125 Olson Memorial Highway	Sue Mackert
Perpich Arts Outreach	Golden Valley, Minnesota 55422	Executive Director
Perpich Arts Library	perpich.mn.gov	763-279-4160

If you have news or events, please email: [Communications](#). Follow us on: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Pinterest](#)